

Shingleton

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
North Carolina Public Health Association
PINEHURST, MAY 19-21, 1941

Monday Morning Session
May 19

The North Carolina Public Health Association convened for the opening session of its Thirty-First Annual Meeting in the ballroom of the Carolina Hotel, at 10 a. m., with the President, Dr. J. W. Williams, Health Officer of Martin County, presiding.

President Williams: The Thirty-First Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Public Health Association will now come to order.

The invocation will be given by the Reverend W. Golden, of Carthage.

Rev. W. S. Golden, Carthage: Our gracious Heavenly Father, we thank Thee that we can gather together and consult about measures which vitally concern the welfare of all the people. We realize, Heavenly Father, that in all these undertakings we have need of more than human help, and we pray for Thy guidance in all that is done. Grant, our Father, Thy blessing upon our country in this critical hour of its history, and may all that is done be to strengthen and sustain it and to guide it in the ways that are pleasing to Thee. We pray for Thy merciful care and protection over all the members of this Association during this visit, and as they shall turn after a while to their homes grant that each may be safely kept along the way. Watch over and protect us all, we ask in Christ our Redeemer's name. Amen.

President Williams: Fellow members, all of us know that we are welcome to Moore County, and all of us are always glad to come here. So the formalities of the welcoming address and response will be omitted, and we shall go directly into our scientific program.

The first paper this morning is "Some of the Problems of Antenatal Care in North Carolina", by Dr. A. W. Makepeace, of Chapel Hill.

... Dr. Makepeace then read his prepared paper.

President Williams: The next paper on the program is by Dr. Robert F. Young, on "Public Health Problems Created in Flood Disasters". Dr. Young is of Halifax County, so he is well qualified to speak on this subject.

... Dr. Young presented his prepared paper.

President Williams: I am sure we have all enjoyed and profited by Dr. Young's paper and the discussion.

The next paper on the program is by Dr. John Hamilton, of Raleigh, Director of the Division of Laboratories of the State Board of Health, on "The Recent Wassermann Survey Conducted on Malaria Patients".

... Dr. Hamilton presented his prepared paper.

Dr. M. J. Rosenau presented a paper on "Public Health and National Defense".

Mrs. Lewis Raulston, of Greensboro, presented a paper on "The Coordination of Public Health Nursing Services With Other Services in a Generalized Program".

Afternoon Session
Monday, May 19

President J. W. Williams: I am going to ask Dr. Fox to introduce the speaker for the afternoon.

Dr. R. E. Fox: Fellow members of the North Carolina Public Health Association: I feel that the subject that has been announced for this hour is probably the most important from our personal standpoint of anything that may come up at this meeting.

The medical agencies have for a good long while had the merit system principle embodied in a civil service system. The Federal agencies that are contributing funds for public health work in North Carolina have recognized that principle as being the fundamental principle of sound personnel administration for governmental units, and in 1939 the Social Security Act was amended to include certain principles that would be applicable to the state and by their interpretation they were made applicable to the local public health unit personnel, both in welfare work and in public health work.

The Legislature of North Carolina at its recent session enacted a law known as Chapter 378, whereby one merit system council was established and appointed by the Governor. It was necessary to have such a council if we were to continue to receive medical funds for health work in this state, and this council was appointed by the Governor, acting under the authority granted under that law. The merit system council, in turn, appointed a supervisor. You may have read in the program that reached you first that they wanted me to talk about the merit system. I realized that I was not capable of doing any such thing, and I persuaded a much better man than I am—one whose examination I will take one of these days if I continue in my present capacity—to come over and discuss with all of us the merit system for personnel administration in North Carolina, particularly as it affects the local health unit. He is Dr. Frank T. de Vyver, Professor of Economics at Duke University.

We welcome Dr. deVyver, and I am sure we will be glad to hear what he has to say.

... Dr. deVyver spoke on "The Merit System for Personnel Administration in North Carolina".

Monday Evening Session
May 19

President Williams: This is the last general session of our meeting, friends. I will ask Dr. Rodeen to introduce the speaker.

Dr. Rodeen: Dr. Mustard was Professor of Hygiene and Public Health at Johns Hopkins from 1932-1936. While there he organized the Health District of Baltimore, which is a teaching and research district and has been a model for copy far and wide as a result of Dr. Mustard's set-up. Dr. Mustard is now one of the Scientific Directors of the International Health District of the Rockefeller Foundation. He is Director of the Delmar Institute of Public Health at Columbia. He is one of

the editors of the American Journal of Public Health. I couldn't begin to tell you all the things he has accomplished. We are to have the pleasure and satisfaction of hearing a message from Dr. H. S. Mustard.

... Dr. Mustard spoke on "Relationships in State and Local Public Health Work".

Dr. Williams: Dr. Mustard, we certainly enjoyed that most excellent paper. We will first hear from the nominating committee.

Chairman: Mr. President, the nominating committee wishes to submit the following recommendations:

For President—Dr. R. E. Rhyne, of Gastonia.
For Vice-President — Dr. Thomas Ennett, of Greenville.

For Secretary-Treasurer—Dr. R. J. Sykes, of Raleigh.

... Upon motion duly made and seconded, the above officers were unanimously elected.

Dr. Williams: The other committee to report was the committee on retirement, composed of Dr. Hudson, Dr. Hege and Dr. Hardin.

Dr. Hudson: As some of you know, the last session of the Legislature made provision for a retirement fund for teachers and for state employees. They also provided a merit system for the rest of us. A few counties in the state and one or two cities in the state were exempted from the provision which required a vote of the people before a retirement system could be instituted by the county or by the city. Others might have been exempted had some of the health officers and local officials taken more interest in it.

Since we have our merit system, the committee

considers this and proposes this for your consideration:

"RESOLVED: That whereas, we, the public health workers of North Carolina, are now included in the merit system under state supervision and our compensation and appointment is governed by state law and not by local governing bodies;

"THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we petition the Legislature to include all public health workers in the state retirement system now used for teachers and state employees.

"AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a committee be appointed to present this matter to the Legislature."

C. C. Hudson
J. Roy Hege
E. R. Hardin

Committee

... Motion made and seconded and carried to adopt the resolution.

Dr. Williams: I will appoint that committee—Dr. Hudson as Chairman, Dr. Hege and Dr. Hardin and also Dr. Bulla and Dr. Rhyne.

... Committee on time and place continued to make a report later to certain officials and to the Executive Committee.

... Dr. M. T. Foster was appointed by Chairman Williams to the Executive Committee, to succeed Dr. R. L. Carlton, whose term expired in 1941.

... Dr. Rhyne was escorted to the front and the gavel turned over to him by Dr. Williams.

President Rhyne: Here it is. You asked for it. The Executive Committee has a job on its hands. I want to warn them right now. So far as policies, I haven't given that a thought, so in the least, there is no change of policy.